

## REMARKS

This amendment responds to the office action dated June 19, 2006.

The Examiner objected to the title of the invention. The applicant has amended the title of the invention to a "System for Improving Storage Efficiency of Digital Files."

The Examiner rejected claims 25-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of Mark et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,303,313 and Zeng et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,522,783 (hereinafter Zeng). Zeng is disqualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) because **both the present application and Zeng were commonly owned at the time of the invention of the subject matter that is claimed in the present application.** This can be easily verified by the Examiner by noting that the present application was filed on June 19, 2001 with an assignment to Sharp Laboratories of America, Inc., which is also the assignee of the cited Zeng reference. The applicant also notes that Zeng was filed on November 23, 1999 and not published until it issued on February 18, 2003, meaning that Zeng was considered as prior art only due to 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Thus, the foregoing statement common ownership disqualifies Zeng as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). *See* 35 U.S.C. § 13(c); *See also*, MPEP § 706.02(l)(3). Therefore, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 25-29.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 25-29.

Respectfully submitted,



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